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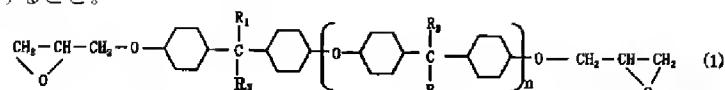
(54)【発明の名称】 中性子遮蔽材用組成物、遮蔽材及び容器

(57)【要約】

【課題】 耐熱性が高く、中性子遮蔽能力を確保した、
中性子遮蔽材料を提供すること。

【解決手段】 水素添加ビスフェノール型エポキシ

【化1】

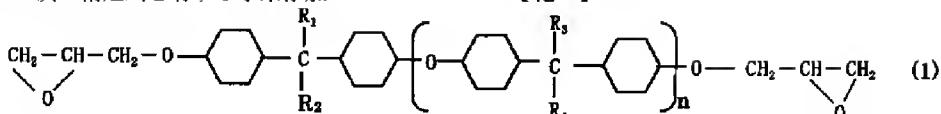


(構造式(1)中、R₁～R₄は、それぞれ独立して、C H₃、H、F、C 1、B rからなる群から選択され、n = 0～2)と、少なくとも1つ以上の環構造と複数のアミノ基とを有する硬化剤成分と、ホウ素化合物とを含ん

でなることにより耐熱性に優れ、中性子遮蔽能力を確保した中性子遮蔽材用組成物、およびこれにより製造された中性子遮蔽容器を提供する。

【特許請求の範囲】

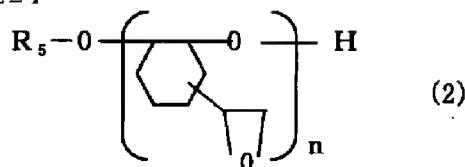
【請求項1】 次の構造式を有する水素添加ビスフェノ*



(構造式(1)中、R₁～R₄は、それぞれ独立して、C H₃、H、F、C1、Brからなる群から選択され、n = 0～2)と、少なくとも1つ以上の環構造と複数のアミノ基とを有する硬化剤成分と、ホウ素化合物とを含んでなる中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

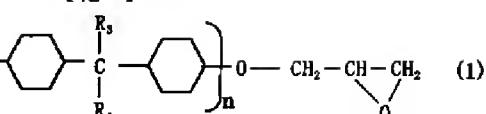
【請求項2】

【化2】



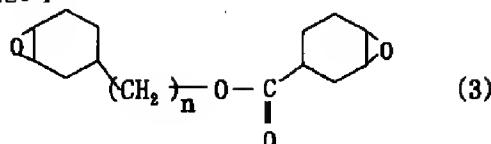
*ール型エポキシ

【化1】



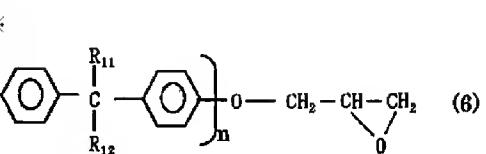
※(構造式(2)中、R₅はCが1～10のアルキル基、またはHであり、n = 1～24)と、

【化3】



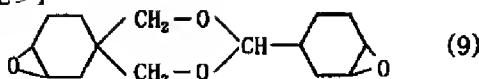
(構造式(3)中、n = 1～8)と、

【化4】



(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂は、それぞれ独立して、C H₃、H、F、C1、Brからなる群から選択され、n = 0～2)と、

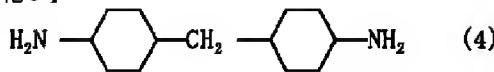
【化5】



との構造式を有する化合物からなる群から選択される1以上の化合物をさらに含む請求項1に記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項3】 硬化剤成分として

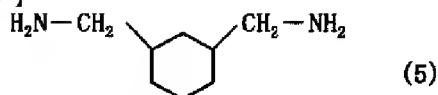
【化6】



の構造式を有する化合物を含む請求項1または2に記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項4】 硬化剤成分として、

【化7】



の構造式を有する化合物と、

【化8】

★ (構造式(8)中、R₆、R₇、R₈は、それぞれ独立して、Cが1～18のアルキル基、またはHである)の構造式を有する化合物のうちのいずれか一つ、あるいはそれらの両方を含む請求項1～3のいずれかに記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項5】 充填剤をさらに含む請求項1～4のいずれかに記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項6】 耐火材をさらに含む請求項1～5のいずれかに記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項7】 前記耐火材が、水酸化マグネシウム、水40酸化アルミニウムの少なくとも1種を含む請求項6に記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物。

【請求項8】 請求項1～7のいずれかに記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物により製造された中性子遮蔽材。

【請求項9】 請求項8に記載の中性子遮蔽材用組成物により製造された中性子遮蔽容器。

【発明の詳細な説明】

【0001】

【発明の属する技術分野】 本発明は中性子遮蔽材用組成物に関する。更には、使用済核燃料の貯蔵および運搬用50の容器であるキャスクに適用する材料であり、耐熱性が

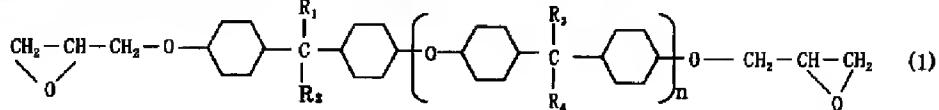
向上し、且つ中性子遮蔽性を確保したエポキシ樹脂系の中性子遮蔽材用の組成物に関する。

【0002】

【従来の技術】原子力発電所などの原子力施設で使用された核燃料は、通常、再処理工場に移送され、再処理に供される。しかし、現在では、このような使用済核燃料の発生量が再処理能力を超えていたため、使用済核燃料は長期にわたって貯蔵保管する必要性が生じている。この際、使用済核燃料は輸送に適した放射能レベルにまで冷却された後、中性子遮蔽容器であるキャスクに入れて輸送されるが、この段階でも中性子などの放射線を放出し続けている。中性子はエネルギーが高く、ガンマ線を発生して人体に重大な傷害を与えるため、この中性子を確実に遮蔽することができる中性子遮蔽材の開発が必要とされている。

【0003】中性子はホウ素によって吸収されることが知られているが、ホウ素が中性子を吸収するためには、中性子を減速する必要がある。中性子を減速するための物質としては水素が最適であることが知られている。従って、中性子遮蔽材用の組成物としては、ホウ素と水素の原子を多く含む必要がある。さらに、中性子の発生源である使用済核燃料等は崩壊熱を生じるため、輸送や貯蔵のためにキャスクに密閉しておくと発熱し高温となる。この最高温度は使用済核燃料の種類によって異なるが、高燃焼度対応の使用済核燃料ではキャスク内の温度は200°C付近にまで達するといわれている。そこで、中性子遮蔽材として用いるには、このような高温条件下で、使用済核燃料の貯蔵目安である約60年間耐えうることが望ましい。

【0004】このため、遮蔽材としては水素密度の高い物質、特に水の使用が提案され、一部実用にも供されている。しかし、水は液体であるため取り扱いが困難で、特に輸送と貯蔵を目的とするキャスクには適さない。また、水を使用した場合、キャスク内が100°C以上になるため、沸騰をおさえるのが困難であるといった問題が*



(構造式(1)中、R₁～R₄は、それぞれ独立して、C₄₀※H₃、H、F、Cl、Brからなる群から選択され、n=0～2)と、少なくとも1つ以上の環構造と複数のアミノ基とを有する硬化剤成分と、ホウ素化合物とを含んでなる中性子遮蔽材用組成物を提供する。

【化10】

*ある。

【0005】そこで従来、中性子遮蔽材の一材料として樹脂組成物が用いられ、その樹脂組成物の1つにエポキシ樹脂が用いられてきた。一般的に樹脂組成物の水素含有量と耐熱性は相反関係にあり、水素含有量が多い物は耐熱性が低く、耐熱性が高い物は水素含有量が低い傾向にある。エポキシ樹脂は、耐熱性や硬化性には優れるものの、中性子を減速させるために必須である水素の含有量が少ないという傾向にあるため、従来はこれを水素含有量が多いアミン系の硬化剤を用いて補う方法が一般的であった。

【0006】特開平6-148388号公報には、多官能アミン系エポキシ樹脂を用い、粘度を低下させて常温での作業性を向上させるとともに、ポットライフに優れた中性子遮蔽材用組成物が開示されている。また、特開平9-176496号公報には、アクリル樹脂、エポキシ樹脂、シリコーン樹脂等からなる組成物をポリアミン系の硬化剤で硬化させた中性子遮蔽材が開示されている。アミン系化合物は比較的水素含有量が多いため、中性子の減速効果は向上するが、アミン部分は熱により分解しやすい。又、エポキシ成分の水素含有量不足を補うため、ポリアミンの様に水素含有量は豊富だがどちらかといえば耐熱性は低い硬化剤を使用し、且つ樹脂組成物中におけるこの硬化剤の成分比率を多くする傾向にあった。従って、従来のアミン系の硬化剤により硬化した組成物よりも、新しい高燃焼度対応の使用済核燃料を貯蔵し保管するために必要な耐久性を十分に有する組成物の開発が求められる。

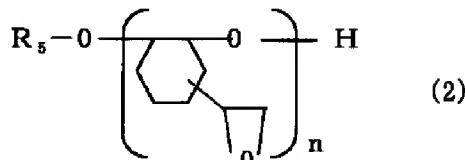
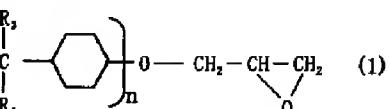
【0007】

【発明が解決する課題】本発明は、従来の組成物よりも耐熱性に優れ、さらに、中性子遮蔽能力を確保した中性子遮蔽材用組成物を提供することを目的とする。

【0008】

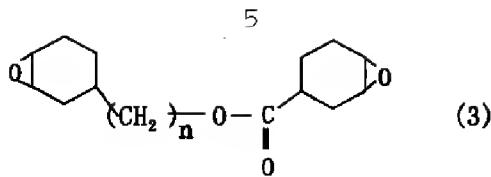
【課題を解決するための手段】前記課題を解決するため、水素添加ビスフェノール型エポキシ

【化9】

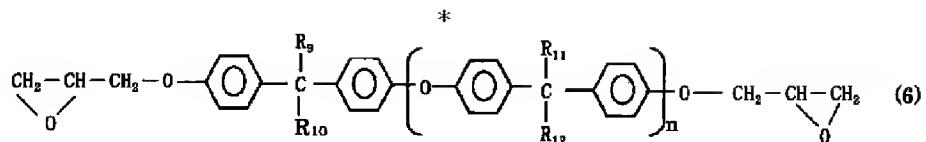


(構造式(2)中、R₅はCが1～10のアルキル基、またはHであり、n=1～24)と、

【化11】

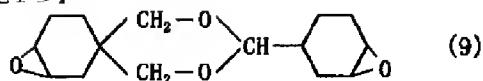


* (構造式(3)中、n=1~8)と、
【化12】



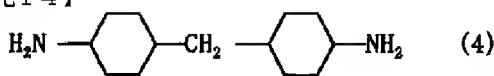
(構造式(6)中、R9~R12は、それぞれ独立して、CH3、H、F、Cl、Brからなる群から選択され、n=0~2)と、

【化13】



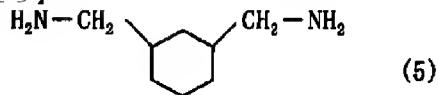
とからなる群から選択される1以上の化合物をさらに含むことが好ましい。硬化剤成分としては、

【化14】



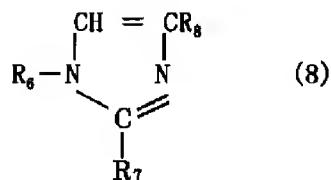
を含むことが好ましく、

【化15】



と、

【化16】



(構造式(8)中、R6、R7、R8は、それぞれ独立して、Cが1~18のアルキル基、またはHである)のうちのいずれか一つ、あるいはそれらの両方を含むことが好ましい。本発明の組成物はまた、充填剤と耐火材とをさらに含む。耐火材が、水酸化マグネシウム、水酸化アルミニウムの少なくとも1種を含むことが好ましい。さらに本発明は、前述の中性子遮蔽材用組成物により製造された中性子遮蔽材および中性子遮蔽容器を提供する。

【0009】

【発明の実施の態様】以下に、本発明の実施の態様を詳細に説明する。なお、以下に説明する実施の態様は、本発明を限定するものではない。本発明を通じて、エポキシ成分とは、エポキシ環を有する化合物(以下、エポキシ化合物といふ)をいい、一種類のエポキシ化合物からなる場合も、二種類以上のエポキシ化合物の混合物からなる場合も、二種類以上のエポキシ化合物の混合物から

10※なる場合をも含む。硬化剤成分とは、一種類以上の硬化剤をいう。樹脂成分とは、エポキシ成分と硬化剤成分とあわせたものをいう。

【0010】従来のエポキシ系の中性子遮蔽材において、特に耐熱性に問題があるのは、主に硬化剤成分として用いられるアミン化合物であった。高温条件下では、硬化した樹脂のアミン部分で結合が分解しやすいためである。しかしながら、従来の組成ではエポキシ成分の水素含有量が少ないため、それを補うために水素含有量が多く耐熱性が低いアミン系硬化剤を多く含む組成とすることで必要な水素量を確保していた。従って、本発明においては、エポキシ成分に比較的水素含有量が多く、且つ剛直な構造や架橋構造を有する化合物を用いることで高耐熱化を図り、エポキシ成分自体の高水素含有量化を行う。また、硬化剤のアミンにも剛直な構造を有する化合物を用いるとともに樹脂組成全体に対するアミン成分の比率をも小さく押さえて、耐熱性の向上、分解部分の少量化を図ることを目的とした。さらに、水素含有量の多いエポキシ成分、硬化剤成分を用い、中性子減速効果を向上させることを目的とした。

【0011】本発明は、エポキシ成分と、硬化剤成分と、中性子吸収剤であるホウ素化合物と、耐火材とを含んでなる、耐熱性に優れ、中性子遮蔽効果の高い水素含有率が高い組成物である。具体的には、本発明の組成物には、硬化させて樹脂としたときに熱重量分析による重量残存率90重量%の温度が330°C以上、好ましくは350°C以上、樹脂成分全体に占める水素含有量が9.8重量%以上であることが求められる。又、以上に加えて更に詳細には、長期間高温密閉環境下での熱耐久後の硬化させた樹脂の重量減少及び圧縮強度の低下が小さい40程度良い。例えば190°C×1000hrの密閉熱耐久後の重量減少率は0.5重量%以下、好ましくは0.2重量%以下、圧縮強度は低下していない、最も好ましくはむしろ上昇傾向にあることが求められる。

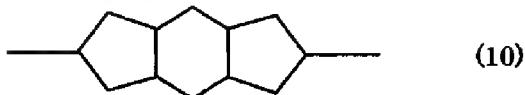
【0012】以下、それぞれの成分について説明する。本発明のエポキシ成分には、アミン系の硬化剤を用いて硬化することができるエポキシ環を有するエポキシ化合物を用いる。エポキシ成分は、一種類のエポキシ化合物でも、複数のエポキシ化合物を混合したものであってもよい。耐熱性、水素含有量增加といった所望の性能を付与することができるようエポキシ成分を構成するエポ

キシ化合物の種類や組成を選択する。

【0013】架橋密度を高くし、耐熱性を向上するため、エポキシ化合物としては、エポキシ環を複数有する化合物が特に好ましい。また、例えばベンゼン環のような環構造を多く含むと、強固な構造となるため、耐熱性の向上を図るのに適切である。さらに、これらの化合物には、中性子を減速させる目的で水素含有量が多いことが要求される。

【0014】環構造としては、ベンゼン環は剛直で耐熱性には優れているが、水素含有量が少ないため、ベンゼン環に水素付加したものを含むことが好ましい。耐熱性を付与しうる剛直な構造としては、

【化17】



を有するものが好ましいが、水素含有量を考えると、
【化18】



を有するものがさらに好ましい。

【0015】これらの点を考慮すると、構造式(1)で示される水素添加ビスフェノール型エポキシ、例えば、水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシや水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシ等が、水素含有量および耐熱性といった点から本発明の組成物のエポキシ成分として最も適切である。従って、本発明のエポキシ成分は、構造式(1)を必須の成分として含んでなる。

(9)、構造式(2)と構造式(6)と構造式(9)、構造式(3)と構造式(6)と構造式(9)の組み合わせを、構造式(1)に添加して本発明のエポキシ成分とすることができます。

【0017】本発明のエポキシ成分において、特に、構造式(1)において、R₁～R₄がメチル基であり、n=0～2である水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシを主成分として用いた場合は、単体で水素含有量と耐熱性との両方を適切に併せ持つと言った利点がある。また、構造式(1)において、R₁～R₄が水素であり、n=0～2である水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシは粘度が低いため、フレーク状のエポキシである構造式(2)と混合して用いる場合に有利である。水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシと構造式(2)に、構造式(3)、構造式(6)、構造式(9)をさらに添加して、多成分系で大きな耐熱性を有することが期待できる。

【0018】例えば、本発明のエポキシ成分の一例としては、水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシと、構造式(2)とを含んでなるものが挙げられる。このとき、構造式(1)がエポキシ成分全体の、35重量%～90重量%、構造式(2)が、10重量%～65重量%となる組成であることが好ましい。更に好ましくは、構造式(1)がエポキシ成分全体の、50重量%～80重量%、構造式(2)が、20重量%～50重量%となる組成であることが好ましい。

【0019】これらのエポキシ成分の組成は、樹脂成分の水素含有量が、中性子を遮蔽するのに十分な量、好ましくは、9.8重量%以上になるように決定する。中性子遮蔽材の中性子遮蔽性能は中性子遮蔽材の水素含有量

30 (密度)と中性子遮蔽材の厚さにより決定される。この値は、キャスクに求められる中性子遮蔽性能とキャスクの中性子遮蔽材の設計厚さから決定される中性子遮蔽材に要求される水素含有量(密度)をもとに、中性子遮蔽材に混練される耐火材や中性子吸収材の配合量を考慮して樹脂成分に求められる水素含有量を算出した値を基準にしたものである。このとき、エポキシ成分中、構造式(1)を、35重量%以上で含むことが好ましく、50重量%以上がさらに好ましく、100重量%が最も好ましい。

40 【0020】構造式(3)をエポキシ成分として含むときは、エポキシ成分中、50重量%以下で含むことが好ましく、30重量%以下がさらに好ましい。構造式(6)で示されるビスフェノール型エポキシを含むときは、50重量%以下で含むことが好ましく、30重量%以下がさらに好ましい。

【0021】構造式(2)で示される耐加水分解性及び耐熱性を付与する化合物の添加量は、エポキシ成分中、6.5重量%以下で含むことが好ましく、5.0重量%以下がさらに好ましく、3.0重量%以下がさらに好ましい。

50 構造式(2)を多く添加しすぎると粘度が上昇し、耐火

材等を添加することができなくなるおそれがあるためである。水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシを主成分として用いた場合には粘度上昇が抑えられるため、構造式(2)を多量に添加する際に効果的である。例えば、水素添加ビスフェノールF型エポキシを主成分として用い且つ構造式(2)をエポキシ成分中50重量%程度用いた場合には、水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシを主成分として用い且つ構造式(2)をエポキシ成分中35重量%程度用いたものと同程度の粘度とすることができる。

【0022】本発明において、エポキシ成分と反応して架橋構造を形成する硬化剤成分としては、アミン系の化合物を用いることができる。架橋密度を上げるためにアミノ基を複数有する化合物が好ましく使用される。さらなる耐熱性を付与するために、環構造を1つ以上、好ましくは2つ以上有する硬化剤成分を用いる。さらに中性子遮蔽効果を付与するために水素含有量が多い化合物が好ましい。環構造には、ベンゼン環、ヘキサン環、ナフタレン環等の炭化水素の環状構造、及びその他複素環などの熱安定性の高い5員環又は6員環及びこれらを結合させた構造や、これらよりなる複合の環状構造等の環構造が好ましい。

【0023】このような硬化剤としては、様々な文献に多数記載されており、それらをエポキシ成分のエポキシ当量との兼ね合いから化学量論的に導かれる必要配合量と水素含有量等を考慮して任意に適用可能である。水素含有量と耐熱性、及び粘度等の点からメンセンジアミン、イソホロンジアミン、1,3-ジアミノシクロヘキサンなどを用いることができる。中でも、耐熱性の面からは、2つの環構造を有するアミン化合物、具体的には構造式(4)を用いることが好ましい。構造式(5)は、構造式(4)に対し、副成分として添加することができる。また、構造式(8)は少量の添加でも硬化剤として機能し、硬化促進剤的に機能するという特徴を有するため、硬化剤成分の減量に効果的である。

【0024】硬化剤成分が、構造式(4)を含む2種類以上の成分を含む場合、例えば、構造式(4)と構造式(5)との2種類のアミン化合物からなる場合には、構造式(4)は、硬化剤成分全体に対して、80重量%以下で添加することが好ましく、60重量%以下がさらに好ましい。

【0025】硬化剤成分の添加量は、樹脂成分全体の25重量%以下が好ましく、23重量%以下がさらに好ましいが、基本的には必要配合量はエポキシ成分のエポキシ当量との兼ね合いから化学量論的に導かれる。

【0026】中性子吸収剤として添加されるホウ素化合物には、炭化ホウ素、窒化ホウ素、無水ホウ酸、ホウ素鉄、灰硼石、正ホウ酸、メタホウ酸等があるが、炭化ホウ素が最も好ましい。

【0027】上記のホウ素化合物は、粉末が用いられる

がその粒度及び添加量には特に制限はない。しかし、マトリックス樹脂のエポキシ樹脂内の分散性、中性子に対する遮蔽性を考慮すれば平均粒径は1~200ミクロン程度が好ましく、10~100ミクロン程度がより好ましく、20~50ミクロン程度が特に好ましい。一方、添加量は後述の充填剤も含めた組成物全体に対して0.5~20重量%の範囲が最も好ましい。0.5重量%未満では加えたホウ素化合物の中性子遮蔽材としての効果が低く、また、20重量%を超えた場合はホウ素化合物を均一に分散させることが困難になる。

【0028】本発明には充填剤として、シリカ、アルミナ、炭酸カルシウム、三酸化アンチモン、酸化チタン、アスベスト、クレー、マイカ等の粉末の他、ガラス纖維等も用いられ、また、必要に応じ炭素纖維等を添加しても良い。更に必要に応じて、離型剤としての天然ワックス、脂肪酸の金属塩、酸アミド類、脂肪酸エステル類等、難燃剤としての塩化パラフィン、ブロムトルエン、ヘキサプロムベンゼン、三酸化アンチモン等、着色剤としてのカーボンブラック、ベンガラ等の他、シランカップリング剤、チタンカップリング剤等を添加することができる。

【0029】本発明に係る組成物において使用される耐火材は、万一、火災に遭遇した場合でも、ある程度以上の中性子遮蔽能力を維持できるよう、中性子遮蔽材をある程度以上残存させることを目的としている。このような耐火材としては、水酸化マグネシウム、水酸化アルミニウムが好ましい。中でも、水酸化マグネシウムは170°C以上の高温でも安定に存在するため、特に好ましい。これら耐火剤の添加量は上記組成物全体中20~70重量%が好ましく、35~60重量%が特に好ましい。

【0030】本発明の組成物は、エポキシ成分を混合後、室温に放置し、混合物が室温程度になったところで硬化剤成分を混合し、最後に耐火材と中性子吸収剤とその他の添加剤成分とを添加することによって調整する。重合は、室温でも可能だが加熱により行うのが好ましい。重合条件としては、樹脂成分の組成によっても異なるが、50°C~200°Cの温度条件において、1時間~3時間加熱を行うことが好ましい。さらには、このような加熱処理は2段階で行うことが好ましく、60°C~90°Cで1時間~2時間加熱した後、120°C~150°Cで、2時間から3時間加熱処理することが好ましい。

【0031】以上のような組成物を用いて、使用済核燃料を貯蔵・輸送するためのキャスクを製造する。このような輸送用のキャスクは、公知技術を利用して製造することができる。例えば、特開平2000-9890号公報に開示されたキャスクにおいて、中性子遮蔽体を充填する個所が設けられている。このような個所に、本発明の組成物を充填することができる。

【0032】このようなキャスク中の遮蔽体に限定され

ることなく、本発明の組成物は、中性子の拡散を防止する装置や施設において、さまざまな個所に用いることができ、効果的に中性子を遮蔽することができる。

【0033】

【実施例】以下に、実施例を用いて本発明を詳細に説明する。なお、以下の実施例は本発明を限定する目的ではない。

【0034】実施例において、本発明の組成物を調製し、中性子遮蔽効果を調べた。通常は中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物に、耐火材として水酸化アルミニウムや水酸化マグネシウム等を全体の60重量%程度、及び中性子吸収剤として炭化ホウ素等のホウ素化合物を全体の1重量%程度を混合して、中性子遮蔽材を作製する。しかし、ここでは樹脂成分、即ち、エポキシ成分と硬化剤成分による性能を評価すべく耐火材および中性子吸収剤は添加しないものを中心とした。

【0035】中性子遮蔽材に求められる性能としては、耐熱性（重量残存率、圧縮強度等）、耐火性、水素含有量（中性子遮蔽としての適性の判断目安として材料中の水素含有密度がある一定量以上あることが必要となる）等がある。耐火性は耐火材による部分が大であるため、中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物の評価としては重量残存率に見る耐熱性と水素含有量を評価した。重量残存率は、昇温時の重量変化を測定することにより、その耐熱性を評価するものである。測定にはTGAを用い、熱重量減少の測定条件は室温～600°Cまでを昇温速度10°C/min、窒素雰囲気下にて測定した。また、樹脂に求められる水素含有量の基準値としては樹脂単体中の水素含有量を9.8重量%程度以上とした。

【0036】【実施例1】エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂（油化シェルエポキシ（株）製、YL6663（構造式（1）））59.47gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂（ダイセル化学（株）製、EHPE3150（構造式（2））25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150（固体）が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤として1,3-BAC（三菱瓦斯化学（株）製、（構造式（5））15.53gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物の水素含有量を成分分析により測定した。測定の結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上（10重量%程度以上）で基準値を上回り満足した。上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、その硬化物の熱重量減少をTGAにより測定した。熱重量減少測定の結果、200°Cでの重量残存率が99.5重量%以上であり、また、重量残存率90重量%の温度が370°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0037】【実施例2】エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂（YL6663（構造

式（1））48.81gと脂環型エポキシ樹脂（ダイセル化学（株）製、セロキサイド2021P（構造式（3））10.00gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂（EHPE3150（構造式（2）））25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150（固体）が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤として1,3-BAC（構造式（5））16.19gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上（10重量%程度以上）で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が380°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0038】【実施例3】エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂（YL6663（構造式（1）））49.20gとビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂（油化シェルエポキシ（株）製、エピコート828（構造式（6）中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2）10.00gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂（EHPE3150（構造式（2）））25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150（固体）が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤として1,3-BAC（構造式（5））15.80gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上（9.9重量%程度以上）で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が380°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0039】【実施例4】エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂（YL6663（構造式（1）））55.44gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂（EHPE3150（構造式（2）））25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150（固体）が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤としてワンダミンHM（新日本理化（株）製、（構造式（4）））14.67gと1,3-BAC（構造式（5））4.89gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.56gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上（10重量%程度以上）で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hr

で硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が390°C程度と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0040】[実施例5]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))44.62gと脂環型エポキシ樹脂(セロキサイド2021P(構造式(3)))10.00gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂(EHPE3150(構造式(2)))25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150(固体)が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))15.29gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))5.09gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.38gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上(10重量%程度以上)で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が400°C程度と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0041】[実施例6]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))43.42gとビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))13.28gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂(EHPE3150(構造式(2)))24.30gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150(固体)が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))11.4gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))7.6gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.00gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%程度で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が400°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0042】[実施例7]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))80.83gに、硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))14.38gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))4.79gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.17gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮

蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は10.6重量%以上で基準値を大きく上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%程度、重量残存率90重量%の温度が330°C程度と良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0043】[実施例8]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))69.93gと脂環型エポキシ樹脂(セロキサイド2021P(構造式(3)))10.07gに、硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))15.00gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))5.00gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤20.00gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は10.5重量%程度で基準値を大きく上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が340°C程度と良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0044】[実施例9]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))49.48gとビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))30.32gに、硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))15.15gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))5.05gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤20.20gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%程度で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が360°C程度と良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0045】[実施例10]エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))55.02gとビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))28.98gに、硬化剤として1,3-BAC(構造式(5))16.00gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%程度で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量

残存率90重量%の温度が340°C程度と良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0046】〔実施例11〕エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))55.44gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂(EHPE3150(構造式(2)))25.00gを混合し、110°Cに保持してEHPE3150(固形)が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))14.5gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))4.85gとイミダゾール化合物(構造式(8))0.2を予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.55gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上(10重量%程度以上)で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が390°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。

【0047】〔実施例12〕ここでは、さらに中性子吸収剤と耐火材を添加した組成物を調製した。エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))43.42gとビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))13.28gと多官能脂環型エポキシ樹脂(EHPE3150(構造式(2)))24.30gを混合し、110°Cに保持して固形のEHPE3150が溶解するまで良く攪拌した。EHPE3150溶解後室温に放置し、室温付近まで温度が低下したら硬化剤としてワンドミンHM(構造式(4))11.4gと1,3-BAC(構造式(5))7.6gを予め良く混合して相溶させた混合硬化剤19.00gを混合・攪拌した。これに水酸化マグネシウムを146.5gと炭化ホウ素3.5gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用組成物とした。中性子遮蔽材に求められる水素含有量の目安としては、水素含有密度が0.096g/cm³以上であるが、調製した中性子遮蔽材組成物の水素含有密度を測定した結果、0.096g/cm³以上で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以上、重量残存率90重量%の温度が400°C以上と極めて良好な耐熱性、熱安定性を示した。又、上記硬化物を密閉容器に封入後、190°C×1000hrの耐熱耐久試験を行った。耐熱耐久試験後、圧縮強度は試験前に比べ1.1倍上昇して123MPa、重量減少率は0.05%程度、ガラス転移温度(粘弾性測定結果のtan δのピーク)は試験前の値13

0°Cより上昇して約175°Cであった。また、化学構造は赤外分光分析の結果から試験前後で殆ど変化していないことを確認した。図1に赤外分光スペクトルを示す。以上の結果から、極めて良好な耐熱耐久性を有することを確認した。

【0048】〔比較例1〕エポキシ樹脂としてビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))とポリアミン系の硬化剤を1:1(化学量論的に等量となる)の割合で混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99重量%以下、重量残存率90重量%の温度が300°C以下であり、実施例の一群と比較して耐熱性、熱安定性は劣った。この組成系は現在使用されている中性子遮蔽材用の樹脂組成物と同様の系を模擬したものだが、比較例1は水素含有量の点からは適性があるが、耐熱性、熱安定性的には実施例の一群と比較して低い値であり、実施例の一群が耐熱性、熱安定性に優れていることがわかる。

【0049】〔比較例2〕エポキシ樹脂としてビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(エピコート828(構造式(6)中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2))81.4gと、硬化剤としてイソホロンジアミン18.6gを良く攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は8.2重量%以下で基準値を大きく下回り未達となった。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%程度、重量残存率90重量%の温度が350°C程度と耐熱性、熱安定性は良かった。この組成系は耐熱性、熱安定性的には良好だが、実施例の一群と比較して水素含有量の点から中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物としては不適であった。

【0050】〔比較例3〕エポキシ樹脂として水素添加ビスフェノールA型エポキシ樹脂(YL6663(構造式(1)))とポリアミン系の硬化剤を1:1(化学量論的に等量となる)の割合で混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。ポリアミン系の硬化剤は、本発明の組成物において使用する硬化剤と異なり、耐熱性の高い剛直な構造を有しておらず、又、その配合量も比率として大きなものとなっている。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上(10重量%程度以上)で基準値を上回り満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.0重量%以下、重量

残存率90重量%の温度が280°C以下であり、実施例の一群と比較して耐熱性、熱安定性が劣った。

【0051】〔比較例4〕エポキシ樹脂としてポリプロピレングリコールの両末端のOHをそれぞれグリシジルエーテルに置換した構造を持つエポキシ樹脂（エポキシ等量190）81.7gと、硬化剤としてイソホロンジアミン18.3gを良く攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。ここで用いるエポキシ樹脂は、本発明のエポキシ成分と異なり、剛直な構造を有さない。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以下、重量残存率90重量%の温度が250°C程度未満であり、実施例の一群と比較して耐熱性、熱安定性が極めて劣った。

【0052】〔比較例5〕エポキシ樹脂として1,6ヘキサンジグリシジルエーテル（エポキシ等量155）78.5gと、硬化剤としてイソホロンジアミン21.5gを良く攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用に用いる樹脂組成物とした。樹脂組成物中の水素含有量を測定した結果、水素含有量は9.8重量%以上で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以下、重量残存率90重量%の温度が300°C未満であり、実施例の一群と比較して耐熱性、熱安定性が劣った。

【0053】〔比較例6〕ここでは、エポキシ成分とボリアミン系の硬化剤とからなる組成物に、耐火材と中性子吸収剤とをさらに添加した組成物について、中性子遮蔽効果を評価した。エポキシ樹脂としてビスフェノール

A型エポキシ樹脂（エピコート828（構造式（6）中、R₉～R₁₂がメチル基であり、n=0～2））50gとボリアミン系の硬化剤50g（化学量論的に等量となる比率）を混合・攪拌したものに水酸化マグネシウムを146.5gと炭化ホウ素3.5gを混合・攪拌して中性子遮蔽材用組成物とした。中性子遮蔽材に求められる水素含有量の目安としては、水素含有密度が0.096g/cm³以上であるが、調製した中性子遮蔽材組成物の水素含有密度を測定した結果、0.096g/cm³以上で基準値を満足した。一方、上記中性子遮蔽材用樹脂組成物を80°C×30min+150°C×2hrで硬化させ、熱重量減少を測定した結果、200°Cでの重量残存率99.5重量%以下、重量残存率90重量%の温度が300°C以下であり、実施例の一群と比較して耐熱性、熱安定性が劣った。又、上記硬化物を密閉容器に封入後、190°C×1000hrの耐熱耐久試験を行った。圧縮強度は試験前に比べ3割以上低下し、高温環境下での耐久性は低いものとなつた。この組成系は、現在使用されている中性子遮蔽材用組成物と同様の系を模擬したものである。比較例6は水素含有量の点からは適性があるが、耐熱性、熱安定性的については、実施例12と比較して低い値であり、実施例12の組成物は耐熱性、熱安定性に優れていることがわかる。

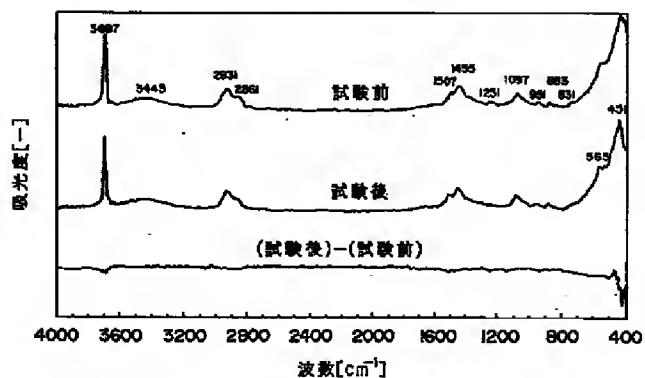
【0054】

【発明の効果】本発明の中性子遮蔽用材料は、耐熱性の向上したエポキシ成分および硬化剤を用いるため、耐熱性が良く、使用済核燃料の長期にわたる貯蔵にも耐えることができる。また中性子遮蔽能力も確保している。

【図面の簡単な説明】

【図1】本発明の組成物で製造した中性子遮蔽材の遮蔽試験前後の赤外分光スペクトルチャートである。

【図1】



フロントページの続き

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DETAILED DESCRIPTION

[Detailed Description of the Invention]

[0001]

[Field of the Invention] This invention relates to the constituent for neutron shielding materials. It is the material applied to the cask which are storage of spent reactor fuel and a container for conveyance, and is related with the constituent for the neutron shielding materials of the epoxy resin system which heat resistance improved and secured neutron cover nature.

[0002]

[Description of the Prior Art]The nuclear fuel used in nuclear installation, such as a nuclear power plant, is transported to a reprocessing plant, and reprocessing is usually presented with it. However, since the yield of such spent reactor fuel is over rework capability, the necessity of carrying out storage storage over a long period of time has produced spent reactor fuel now. Under the present circumstances, spent reactor fuel is paid and conveyed to the cask which is a neutron shield vessel, after being cooled by even radiation levels suitable for transportation, but emitting radiation, such as a neutron, also in this stage is being continued. Energy of a neutron is high, and since a gamma ray is generated and a serious injury is done to a human body, development of the neutron shielding material which can cover this neutron certainly is needed.

[0003]Although it is known that a neutron will be absorbed by boron, in order for boron to absorb a neutron, it is necessary to slow down a neutron. It is known that hydrogen is the optimal as a substance for slowing down a neutron. Therefore, many atoms of boron and hydrogen need to be included as a constituent for neutron shielding materials. Since spent reactor fuel which is a source of release of a neutron produces decay heat, if it is sealed to the cask for transportation or storage, it will generate heat, and serves as an elevated temperature. Although this maximum temperature changes with kinds of spent nuclear fuel, in the spent nuclear fuel corresponding to the degree of high combustion, it is said that the

temperature within a cask reaches even near 200 **. Then, in order to use as a neutron shielding material, the thing which is a storage rule of thumb of spent nuclear fuel and which can be borne for about 60 years is desirable under such high temperature service.

[0004]For this reason, use of a substance with hydrogen density high as a shielding material, especially water is proposed, and practical use is also presented with the part. However, since water is a fluid, it is difficult handling, and it does not fit the cask especially aiming at transportation and storage. Since the inside of a cask will be not less than 100 ** when water is used, there is a problem that it is difficult to press down boil.

[0005]Then, conventionally, the resin composition was used as one material of a neutron shielding material, and the epoxy resin has been used for one of resin compositions.

Generally, the hydrogen content of a resin composition and heat resistance are in reciprocity relation, and the thing with heat resistance low [the thing with many hydrogen contents] and high heat resistance has a hydrogen content in a low tendency. Although an epoxy resin is excellent in heat resistance or hardenability, since it was in the tendency little content of hydrogen indispensable in order to decelerate a neutron to be, its method of compensating this using the hardening agent of an amine system with many hydrogen contents was conventionally common.

[0006]While reducing viscosity and raising the workability in ordinary temperature using a polyfunctional amine system epoxy resin, the constituent for neutron shielding materials excellent in pot life is indicated by JP,6-148388,A. The neutron shielding material which made JP,9-176496,A harden the constituent which consists of an acrylic resin, an epoxy resin, silicone resin, etc. with the hardening agent of a polyamine system is indicated. Since an amine compound has comparatively many hydrogen contents, the slowing-down-of-neutron effect improves, but heat is easy to decompose an amine portion. In order to compensate the shortage of a hydrogen content of an epoxy ingredient, although the hydrogen content was abundant, heat resistance's rather suited to the tendency which uses a low hardening agent and increases the ingredient ratio of this hardening agent in a resin composition like polyamine. Therefore, development of the constituent which fully has endurance required in order to store and keep the spent reactor fuel corresponding to the degree of high combustion newer than the constituent hardened with the hardening agent of the conventional amine system is called for.

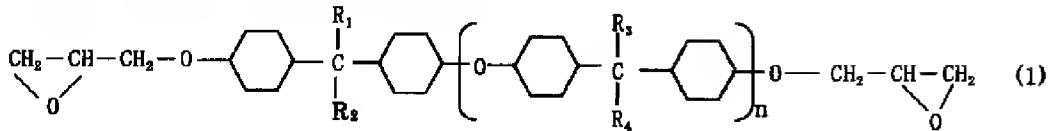
[0007]

[Problem(s) to be Solved by the Invention]This invention excels the conventional constituent in heat resistance, and an object of this invention is to provide further the constituent for neutron shielding materials which secured neutron shield capability.

[0008]

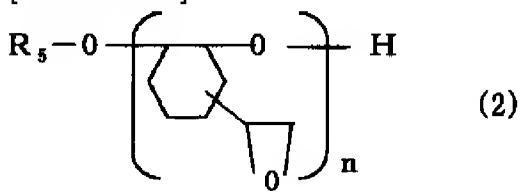
[Means for Solving the Problem]In order to solve said technical problem, it is hydrogenation

bisphenol type epoxy. [Formula 9]



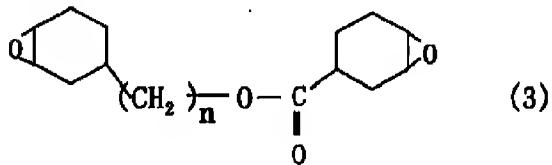
(R₁ - R₄ among a structural formula (1)) It is independently chosen from the group which consists of CH₃, H, F, Cl, and Br, respectively, and the constituent for neutron shielding materials containing the hardening agent component which has n= 0-2, and at least one or more ring structures and two or more amino groups, and a boron compound is provided.

[Formula 10]

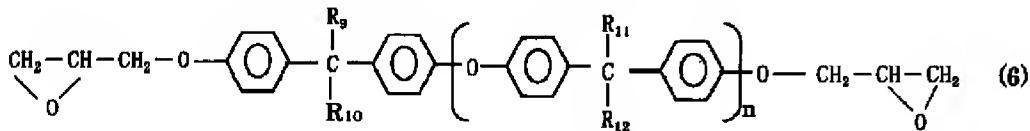


(structural-formula (2) C is an alkyl group of 1-10, or H, and inside and R₅ are with n= 1 - 24),

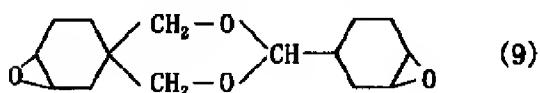
[Formula 11]



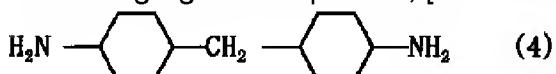
(structural-formula (3) Inside, n= 1 - 8), [Formula 12]



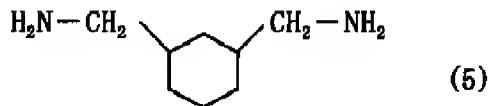
(structural-formula (6) It is independently chosen from the group which consists of CH₃, H, F, Cl, and Br, respectively, and inside, R₉ - R₁₂ are with n= 0 - 2), [Formula 13]



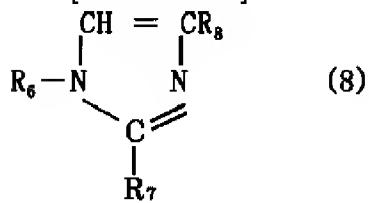
It is preferred that one or more compounds chosen from a group are included further. As a hardening agent component, [Formula 14]



***** -- things are preferred [Formula 15]



**** [Formula 16]



(C of the inside of a structural formula (8), R_6 , R_7 , and R_8 is an alkyl group of 1-18, or H independently, respectively --) -- it is preferred that any inner one or those both are included. The constituent of this invention contains a bulking agent and a fire refractory material further again. It is preferred that a fire refractory material contains at least one sort of magnesium hydroxide and aluminium hydroxide. Furthermore, this invention provides the neutron shielding material and neutron shield vessel which were manufactured with the above-mentioned constituent for neutron shielding materials.

[0009]

[The mode of implementation of an invention] Below, the mode of operation of this invention is explained in detail. The mode of the operation explained below does not limit this invention. Also when an epoxy ingredient means the compound (henceforth an epoxy compound) which has an epoxy ring through this invention and it consists of one kind of epoxy compound, the case where it consists of a mixture of two or more kinds of epoxy compounds is also included. A hardening agent component means one or more kinds of hardening agents. A resinous principle means what was united with the epoxy ingredient and the hardening agent component.

[0010]In an amine compound mainly used as a hardening agent component, in a neutron shielding material of the conventional epoxy system, there was a problem especially in heat resistance. Under high temperature service, it is easy to decompose combination in an amine portion of hardened resin. However, in the conventional presentation, since there were few hydrogen contents of an epoxy ingredient, in order to compensate it, hydrogen quantity which needs a hydrogen content by considering it as a presentation containing many many amine system hardening agents with low heat resistance had been secured. Therefore, in this invention, high-heat-resistance-ization is attained by using a compound which has structure and the structure of cross linkage with them which have many hydrogen contents for an epoxy ingredient, and flood matter content-ization of the epoxy ingredient itself is performed.

[comparatively upright] While using also for amine of a hardening agent a compound which has an upright structure, a ratio of an amine component to the whole resin composition was

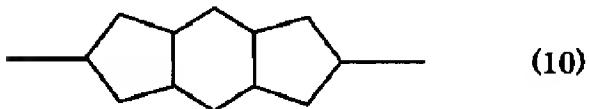
also pressed down small, and it aimed at attaining heat-resistant improvement and small-quantity-ization of a decomposition portion. It aimed at raising the neutron moderation effect using an epoxy ingredient with many hydrogen contents, and a hardening agent component. [0011]This invention is a constituent with high hydrogen content with a high neutron shielding effect which is excellent in heat resistance containing an epoxy ingredient, a hardening agent component, a boron compound that is neutron absorption agents, and a fire refractory material. Specifically, a constituent of this invention is asked for a hydrogen content which not less than 330 ** of temperature of 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates by thermogravimetric analysis occupies to not less than 350 ** and the whole resinous principle preferably being 9.8 % of the weight or more, when it is made to harden and is considered as resin. It is so good that weight loss of resin and a fall of compressive strength which were stiffened after heat durability under elevated-temperature sealing environment more particularly for a long period of time in addition to the above are small. For example, a rate of weight loss after sealing heat durability of $190 ** \times 1000\text{hr}$ is preferably asked for a thing which compressive strength is not falling 0.2 or less % of the weight and which are rising rather most preferably 0.5 or less % of the weight.

[0012]Hereafter, each ingredient is explained. An epoxy compound which has an epoxy ring which can be hardened using a hardening agent of an amine system is used for an epoxy ingredient of this invention. An epoxy ingredient may mix two or more epoxy compounds [epoxy compound / one kind of]. Heat resistance, and a kind of epoxy compound and a presentation which constitute an epoxy ingredient so that performance of a request called an increase in a hydrogen content can be given are chosen.

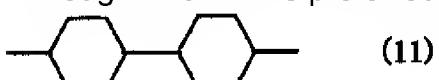
[0013]In order to make crosslinking density high and to improve heat resistance, as an epoxy compound, especially a compound that carries out two or more owners of the epoxy ring is preferred. Since it will become a firm structure if many ring structures like the benzene ring are included, for example, it is suitable to aim at heat-resistant improvement. It is required for these compounds that there are many hydrogen contents in order to decelerate a neutron.

[0014]As a ring structure, the benzene ring is upright, and although excelled in heat resistance, since there are few hydrogen contents, it is preferred that what carried out hydrogenation to the benzene ring is included. As an upright structure which can give heat resistance, [Formula 17]

17]



Although what **** is preferred, if a hydrogen content is considered, [Formula 18]



What **** is still more preferred.

[0015]The hydrogenation bisphenol type epoxy shown with a structural formula (1) when these points are taken into consideration, For example, hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy, hydrogenation bisphenol female mold epoxy, etc. are the most suitable as an epoxy ingredient of the constituent of points, such as a hydrogen content and heat resistance, to this invention. Therefore, the epoxy ingredient of this invention contains a structural formula (1) as an indispensable ingredient.

[0016]As an epoxy ingredient which gives heat resistance, a structural formula (3) and a structural formula (6) are added. A structural formula (2) is added as an ingredient which raises heat resistance and hydrolysis resistance. Since a structural formula (9) maintains a hydrogen content and can expect heat resistance, it is adding this compound as an epoxy ingredient, and it becomes possible to give the target character. Therefore, a structural formula (2), structural formulae (3), structural formulae (6), and all the structural formulae (9) may also be included in the epoxy ingredient of this invention, and only one only of sorts of these may also be included in it. The viscosity and cost of a constituent may determine one or more of kinds of these. The epoxy ingredient of this invention can be used in all the combination which uses hydrogenation bisphenol epoxy as the main ingredients, and can consider a structural formula (2), a structural formula (3), a structural formula (6), and a structural formula (9). For example, a structural formula (2), a structural formula (3), a structural formula (2) and a structural formula (6), A structural formula (2), a structural formula (9), a structural formula (3) and a structural formula (6), a structural formula (3) and a structural formula (9), A structural formula (6), a structural formula (9), a structural formula (2), a structural formula (3) and a structural formula (6), It can add in a structural formula (1) and combination of a structural formula (2), a structural formula (3), a structural formula (9), a structural formula (2), a structural formula (6) and a structural formula (9), a structural formula (3), a structural formula (6), and a structural formula (9) can be used as the epoxy ingredient of this invention.

[0017]In an epoxy ingredient of this invention, especially when hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy which $R_1 - R_4$ are methyl groups and is $n= 0-2$ is used as the main ingredients in a structural formula (1), there is an advantage referred to as having both a hydrogen content and heat resistance appropriately alone. In a structural formula (1), $R_1 - R_4$ are hydrogen, and since viscosity is low, hydrogenation bisphenol female mold epoxy which is $n= 0-2$ is advantageous, when mixing with a structural formula (2) which is flake-like epoxy and using. It is expectable to add further a structural formula (3), a structural formula (6), and a structural formula (9) in hydrogenation bisphenol female mold epoxy and a structural formula (2), and to have big heat resistance by a multicomponent system in them.

[0018] For example, as an example of an epoxy ingredient of this invention, hydrogenation

bisphenol female mold epoxy and a thing containing a structural formula (2) are mentioned. At this time, it is preferred that it is the presentation from which a structural formula (1) will become 35 % of the weight - 90% of the weight of the epoxy whole ingredient, and a structural formula (2) will be 10 % of the weight - 65 % of the weight. It is preferred preferably that it is the presentation from which a structural formula (1) will become 50 % of the weight - 80% of the weight of the epoxy whole ingredient, and a structural formula (2) will be 20 % of the weight - 50 % of the weight.

[0019]quantity whose hydrogen content of a resinous principle of a presentation of these epoxy ingredients is sufficient to cover a neutron -- it determines to become 9.8% of the weight or more preferably. Neutron shielding performance of a neutron shielding material is determined by a hydrogen content (density) of a neutron shielding material, and thickness of a neutron shielding material. This value based on a hydrogen content (density) required of a neutron shielding material determined from design thickness of a neutron shielding material of neutron shielding performance and a cask for which a cask is asked, It is based on a value which computed a hydrogen content for which a resinous principle is asked in consideration of loadings of a fire refractory material kneaded by neutron shielding material or a neutron absorber. At this time, it is preferred among an epoxy ingredient that a structural formula (1) is included at 35 % of the weight or more, 50 % of the weight or more is still more preferred, and 100 % of the weight is the most preferred.

[0020]When a structural formula (3) is included as an epoxy ingredient, it is preferred among an epoxy ingredient to contain at 50 or less % of the weight, and 30 or less % of the weight is still more preferred. When bisphenol type epoxy shown with a structural formula (6) is included, it is preferred to contain at 50 or less % of the weight, and 30 or less % of the weight is still more preferred.

[0021]As for an addition of a compound which gives hydrolysis resistance and heat resistance which are shown with a structural formula (2), it is preferred among an epoxy ingredient to contain at 65 or less % of the weight, its 50 or less % of the weight is still more preferred, and its 30 or less % of the weight is still more preferred. It is because there is a possibility that viscosity may rise and it may become impossible to add a fire refractory material etc. when many structural formulae (2) are added too much. Since a viscosity rise is suppressed when hydrogenation bisphenol female mold epoxy is used as the main ingredients, it is effective when adding a structural formula (2) so much. For example, when a structural formula (2) is used about 50% of the weight among an epoxy ingredient, using hydrogenation bisphenol female mold epoxy as the main ingredients. It can be considered as viscosity comparable as a thing using [the inside of an epoxy ingredient] a structural formula (2) about 35% of the weight, using hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy as the main ingredients.

[0022]In this invention, a compound of an amine system can be used as a hardening agent

component which reacts to an epoxy ingredient and forms the structure of cross linkage. In order to raise crosslinking density, a compound which carries out two or more owners of the amino group is used preferably. In order to give further heat resistance, a hardening agent component which has preferably one [or more] or more ring structures [two] is used. In order to give a neutron shielding effect furthermore, a compound with many hydrogen contents is preferred. Ring structures, such as structure where thermal stability high five-membered rings, such as cyclic structure of hydrocarbon, such as the benzene ring, a hexane ring, and a naphthalene ring, and other heterocycles, or six membered-rings, and these were combined with a ring structure, and compound cyclic structure which consists of these, are preferred.

[0023]As such a hardening agent, a large number are indicated in various articles, and they can be arbitrarily applied in consideration of required loadings, a hydrogen content, etc. which can be stoichiometrically drawn from balance with a weight per epoxy equivalent of an epoxy ingredient. MENSENJI amine, isophoronediamine, 1,3-diaminocyclohexane, etc. can be used from points, such as a hydrogen content, heat resistance, and viscosity. Especially, it is preferred an amine compound which has two ring structures from a heat-resistant field, and to specifically use a structural formula (4). A structural formula (5) can be added as an accessory constituent to a structural formula (4). Since a structural formula (8) has the feature of functioning as a hardening agent and functioning in hardening accelerator also by a little addition, it is effective for loss in quantity of a hardening agent component.

[0024]When a hardening agent component contains two or more kinds of ingredients containing a structural formula (4), for example it consists of two kinds of amine compounds of a structural formula (4) and a structural formula (5), as for a structural formula (4), it is preferred to add at 80 or less % of the weight to the whole hardening agent component, and its 60 or less % of the weight is still more preferred.

[0025]Although 25 or less % of the weight of the whole resinous principle of an addition of a hardening agent component is preferred and 23 or less % of the weight is still more preferred, required loadings are fundamentally drawn stoichiometrically from balance with a weight per epoxy equivalent of an epoxy ingredient.

[0026]Boron carbide is the most preferred although boron carbide, boron nitride, anhydrous boric acid, boron iron, a colemanite, orthoboric acid, metaboric acid, etc. are among boron compounds added as a neutron absorption agent.

[0027]Although powder is used as for the above-mentioned boron compound, there is no restriction in particular in the particle size and addition. However, if dispersibility in an epoxy resin of matrix resin and cover nature to a neutron are taken into consideration, about 1-200 microns of mean particle diameter are preferred, its about 10-100 microns are more preferred, and especially its about 20-50 microns are preferred. On the other hand, 0.5 to 20% of the weight of range of an addition is the most preferred to the whole constituent also including the

below-mentioned bulking agent. At less than 0.5 % of the weight, when an effect as a neutron shielding material of an added boron compound is low and exceeds 20 % of the weight, it becomes difficult to distribute a boron compound uniformly.

[0028]Glass fiber besides powder, such as silica, alumina, calcium carbonate, antimonous oxide, titanium oxide, asbestos, clay, and mica, etc. is used for this invention as a bulking agent, and carbon fiber etc. may be added if needed. If needed Natural wax as a release agent, metal salt of fatty acid, Chloroparaffin as fire retardant, such as acid amides and fatty acid ester, bromine toluene, hexa bromobenzene, antimonous oxide, etc. can add others, a silane coupling agent, a titanium coupling agent, etc. which are carbon black as colorant, red ochre, etc.

[0029]Even when a fire is encountered, a fire refractory material used in a constituent concerning this invention should aim at making a neutron shielding material remain above to some extent so that the above neutron shield capability can be maintained to some extent. As such a fire refractory material, magnesium hydroxide and aluminium hydroxide are preferred. Especially, since even a not less than 170 ** elevated temperature exists stably, magnesium hydroxide is especially preferred. As for an addition of these fire-resistant agent, 20 to 70 % of the weight is preferred among the above-mentioned whole constituent, and especially its 35 to 60 % of the weight is preferred.

[0030]A constituent of this invention is neglected to a room temperature after mixing an epoxy ingredient, mixes a hardening agent component in a place where a mixture became a room temperature grade, and adjusts it by finally adding a fire refractory material, a neutron absorption agent, and other additive components. As for a polymerization, it is preferred that heating performs also at a room temperature although it is possible. As polymerization conditions, although it changes also with presentations of a resinous principle, on temperature conditions (50 ** - 200 **), it is preferred to perform heating for 1 hour - 3 hours. It is preferred to perform such heat-treatment in two steps, after heating at 60 ** - 90 ** for 1 hour - 2 hours, it is 120 ** - 150 **, and it is preferred to heat-treat from 2 hours for 3 hours.

[0031]A cask for storing and conveying spent reactor fuel using the above constituents is manufactured. Such a cask for transportation can be manufactured using known art. For example, a part filled up with a neutron shield is established in a cask indicated by JP,2000-9890,A. Such a part can be filled up with a constituent of this invention.

[0032]Without being limited to a screen in such a cask, in a device and an institution which prevent diffusion of a neutron, a constituent of this invention can be used for various parts, and can cover a neutron effectively.

[0033]

[Example]An example is used for below and this invention is explained to it in detail. The following examples are not the purposes of limiting this invention.

[0034]In the example, the constituent of this invention was prepared and the neutron shielding effect was investigated. Usually, to the resin composition for neutron shielding materials, boron compounds, such as boron carbide, are mixed for aluminium hydroxide, magnesium hydroxide, etc. as a fire refractory material, about 1% of the weight of the whole is mixed as about 60 whole % of the weight and neutron absorption agent, and a neutron shielding material is produced to it. However, the fire refractory material and the neutron absorption agent centered on what is not added here that the performance by a resinous principle, i.e., an epoxy ingredient and a hardening agent component, should be evaluated.

[0035]As performance for which a neutron shielding material is asked, there are heat resistance (a weight survival rate, compressive strength, etc.), refractoriness, a hydrogen content (a certain thing is [more than constant rate that has the hydrogen content density in material as a judgment rule of thumb of the fitness as neutron cover] needed), etc. Since the portion by a fire refractory material was size, refractoriness evaluated the heat resistance and the hydrogen content which are seen to a weight survival rate as evaluation of the resin composition for neutron shielding materials. A weight survival rate evaluates the heat resistance by measuring the weight change at the time of temperature up. For measurement, the measuring condition of thermo gravity reduction measured even room temperature -600 ** under the heating rate of 10 ** / min, and a nitrogen atmosphere using TGA. As a reference value of the hydrogen content for which resin is asked, the hydrogen content in the inside of a resin simple substance was made into about 9.8 % of the weight or more.

[0036][Example 1] -- as an epoxy resin -- a hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resin (the product made from Oil recovery Shell Epoxy.) YL6663 (structural formula (1)) 59.47g and a polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resin (the product made from Die Cell Chemicals and EHPE3150 (structural formula (2)) 25.00g were mixed, and it stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved.) When it is neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution and temperature falls to near a room temperature, it is 1 and 3-BAC (it was considered as the Mitsubishi Gas Chemical Co., Inc. make and the resin composition which mixes and stirs 15.53 (structural formula (5)) g, and is used for neutron shielding materials.) as a hardening agent. The hydrogen content of the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials was measured by component analysis. The hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value as a result of measurement. The above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials was stiffened by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr, and thermo gravity reduction of the hardened material was measured by TGA. As a result of thermo gravity reduction measurement, the weight survival rate in 200 ** is 99.5 % of the weight or more, and the temperature of 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 370 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0037][Example 2] -- as an epoxy resin -- 48.81 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and an alicycle type epoxy resin (the product made from Die Cell Chemicals.) SEROKI side 2021P(structural formula (3))10.00g and 25.00 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) were mixed, and it stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. It was neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, and when temperature fell to near a room temperature, it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs 1 and 3-BAC (structural formula (5))16.19g as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 380 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0038][Example 3] -- as an epoxy resin -- 49.20 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (the product made from Oil recovery Shell Epoxy.) Epicoat 828 ($R_9 - R_{12}$ are methyl groups among a structural formula (6), and) n=0-210.00g and 25.00 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) were mixed, and it stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. It was neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, and when temperature fell to near a room temperature, it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))15.80g as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 9.9 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 380 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0039][Example 4] 55.44 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))) and 25.00 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) are mixed as an epoxy resin, It stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. if it is neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution and temperature falls to near a room temperature -- as a hardening agent -- one DAMIN HM (the New Japan Chemical Co., Ltd. make.) (Structural-formula (4)) It was considered as the resin

composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 19.56g in which it mixed well and 14.67 g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))4.89g were dissolved beforehand, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 390 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0040][Example 5] as an epoxy resin. 44.62 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), 10.00 g of alicycle type epoxy resins (SEROKI side 2021P (structural formula (3))), and 25.00 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) are mixed, It stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. It is neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, When temperature fell to near a room temperature, it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 19.38g in which it mixed well and one DAMIN HM (structural formula (4))15.29g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))5.09g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 400 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0041][Example 6] They are 43.42 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. $R_9 - R_{12}$ were methyl groups, $n=0$ -213.28g and 24.30 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) were mixed, and it stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. It is neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, When temperature fell to near a room temperature, it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 19.00g in which it mixed well and one DAMIN HM(structural formula (4))11.4g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))7.6g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with about 9.8 % of the weight of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron

shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 400 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0042][Example 7] As an epoxy resin, to 80.83 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))). It was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 19.17g in which it mixed well and one DAMIN HM (structural formula (4))14.38g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))4.79g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content far exceeded the reference value and was satisfied with 10.6 % of the weight or more of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of about 99.5 % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 330 **, good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0043][Example 8] As an epoxy resin, to 69.93 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and 10.07 g of alicycle type epoxy resins (SEROKI side 2021P (structural formula (3))). It was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 20.00g in which it mixed well and one DMIN HM (structural formula (4))15.00g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))5.00g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content far exceeded the reference value and was satisfied with about 10.5 % of the weight of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 340 **, good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0044][Example 9] They are 49.48 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. $R_9 - R_{12}$ are methyl groups and to n=0-230.32g. It was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 20.20g in which it mixed well and one DAMIN HM(structural formula (4))15.15g and 1 and 3-BAC (structural formula (5))5.05g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with about 9.8 % of the weight of the

reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 360 **, good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0045][Example 10] They are 55.02 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. $R_9 - R_{12}$ are methyl groups and it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))16.00g as a hardening agent, and is used for n=0-228.98g for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with about 9.8 % of the weight of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed about 340 **, good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0046][Example 11] 55.44 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))) and 25.00 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural formula (2))) are mixed as an epoxy resin, It stirred well until it held at 110 ** and EHPE3150 (solid) dissolved. It is neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, If temperature falls to near a room temperature, one DAMIN HM(structural formula (4))14.5g, 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))4.85g, and the imidazole compound (structural formula (8)) 0.2 will be beforehand mixed well as a hardening agent. It was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the mixed hardening agent 19.55g in which it was made to dissolve, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 390 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability.

[0047][Example 12] Here, the constituent which added the neutron absorption agent and the fire refractory material further was prepared. They are 43.42 g of hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resins (YL6663 (structural formula (1))), and a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. $R_9 - R_{12}$ were methyl groups, $n=0$ -213.28g and 24.30 g of polyfunctional alicycle type epoxy resins (EHPE3150 (structural

formula (2))) were mixed, and it stirred well until it held at 110 ** and solid EHPE3150 dissolved. It was neglected to the room temperature after the EHPE3150 dissolution, and when temperature fell to near a room temperature, the mixed hardening agent 19.00g in which it mixed well and one DAMIN HM(structural formula (4))11.4g and 1 and 3-BAC(structural formula (5))7.6g were beforehand dissolved as a hardening agent was mixed and stirred. 146.5 g and 3.5 g of boron carbide were mixed and stirred, and magnesium hydroxide was used as the constituent for neutron shielding materials at this. As a rule of thumb of the hydrogen content for which a neutron shielding material is asked, although hydrogen content density was more than 0.096 g/cm³, as a result of measuring the hydrogen content density of the prepared neutron shielding material constituent, the reference value was satisfied above 0.096 g/cm³. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 % of the weight or more of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates showed not less than 400 **, very good heat resistance, and thermal stability. The heat-resistant durability test of 190 **x1000hr was done after sealing the above-mentioned hardened material hermetically in a well-closed container. After the heat-resistant durability test, compressive strength rose 1.1 times compared with examination before, 123MPa and the rate of weight loss rose from the value from about 0.05%, glass transition temperature (peak of tandelta of a viscoelasticity determination result) rose from the value of 130 ** before an examination, and it was about 175 **. Chemical structure is before and after a blank test as a result of infrared spectroscopic analysis, and it checked hardly changing. An infrared spectroscopy spectrum is shown in drawing 1. It checked having very good heat-resistant endurance from the above result.

[0048][Comparative example 1] It is a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. $R_9 - R_{12}$ are methyl groups and it was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs the hardening agent of $n = 0-2$ and a polyamine system at a rate of 1:1 (it becomes an equivalent amount stoichiometrically), and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by $80^{\circ}\text{C} \times 30\text{min} + 150^{\circ}\text{C} \times 2\text{hr}$ and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99 or less % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200°C and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates is 300°C or less, and heat resistance and thermal stability were inferior as compared with a group of an example. Although this presentation system imitated the same system as the resin composition for neutron shielding materials used now, and the comparative example 1 has fitness from a point of a hydrogen content, as

compared with a group of an example, it is a low value, and a group of an example is known by heat resistance and excelling in thermal stability at heat resistance and a thermal stability target.

[0049][Comparative example 2] As an epoxy resin, 81.4 g of bisphenol A type epoxy resins (Epicoat 828 ($R_9 - R_{12}$ are methyl groups among a structural formula (6), and it is $n=0-2$)), It was considered as the resin composition which stirs 18.6 g of isophoronediamine well as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was much less than the reference value at 8.2 or less % of the weight, and became in transit. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, about 350 **, heat resistance, and thermal stability had a good temperature of about 99.5 % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 **, and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates. Although this presentation system was good on heat resistance and a thermal stability target, it was unsuitable as a resin composition for neutron shielding materials from a point of a hydrogen content as compared with a group of an example.

[0050][Comparative example 3] It was considered as the resin composition which mixes and stirs a hydrogenation bisphenol A type epoxy resin (YL6663 (structural formula (1))) and the hardening agent of a polyamine system at a rate of 1:1 (it becomes an equivalent amount stoichiometrically) as an epoxy resin, and is used for neutron shielding materials. Unlike the hardening agent used in the constituent of this invention, the hardening agent of a polyamine system does not have a heat-resistant upright high structure, and has become a thing as a ratio also with the big loadings. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content exceeded and was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more (about 10 % of the weight or more) of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.0 or less % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates is 280 ** or less, and heat resistance and thermal stability were inferior as compared with a group of an example.

[0051][Comparative example 4] 81.7 g of epoxy resins (epoxy equivalent weight 190) with the structure which replaced OH of the both ends of a polypropylene glycol by glycidyl ether as an epoxy resin, respectively, It was considered as the resin composition which stirs 18.3 g of isophoronediamine well as a hardening agent, and is used for neutron shielding materials. Unlike the epoxy ingredient of this invention, the epoxy resin used here does not have an upright structure. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more of the reference value. On the

other hand, the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials is stiffened by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr, As a result of measuring thermo gravity reduction, the temperature of 99.5 or less % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates is less than about 250 **, and heat resistance and thermal stability were extremely inferior as compared with a group of an example.

[0052][Comparative example 5] It was considered as 1, 78.5 g of 6 hexane diglycidyl ether (epoxy equivalent weight 155), and the resin composition that stirs 21.5 g of isophoronediamine well as hardening agents, and is used for neutron shielding materials as an epoxy resin. As a result of measuring the hydrogen content in a resin composition, the hydrogen content was satisfied with 9.8 % of the weight or more of the reference value. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99.5 or less % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates is less than 300 **, and heat resistance and thermal stability were inferior as compared with a group of an example.

[0053][Comparative example 6] Here, the neutron shielding effect was evaluated about the constituent which added the fire refractory material and the neutron absorption agent further to the constituent which consists of an epoxy ingredient and a hardening agent of a polyamine system. It is a bisphenol A type epoxy resin (Epicoat 828 (among a structural formula (6))) as an epoxy resin. It was a methyl group, and $R_9 - R_{12}$ mixed and stirred 146.5 g and 3.5 g of boron carbide, and used magnesium hydroxide as the constituent for neutron shielding materials what mixed and stirred the hardening agent 50g (ratio which becomes an equivalent amount stoichiometrically) of $n=0-250$ g and a polyamine system. As a rule of thumb of the hydrogen content for which a neutron shielding material is asked, although hydrogen content density was more than 0.096 g/cm³, as a result of measuring the hydrogen content density of the prepared neutron shielding material constituent, the reference value was satisfied above 0.096 g/cm³. As a result of stiffening the above-mentioned resin composition for neutron shielding materials by 80 **x30min+150 **x2hr and measuring thermo gravity reduction on the other hand, the temperature of 99 or less % of the weight of weight survival rates in 200 ** and 90 % of the weight of weight survival rates is 300 ** or less, and heat resistance and thermal stability were inferior as compared with a group of an example. The heat-resistant durability test of 190 **x1000hr was done after sealing the above-mentioned hardened material hermetically in a well-closed container. Compressive strength fell 30 percent or more compared with examination before, and the endurance under hot environments became low. This presentation system imitates the same system as the constituent for neutron shielding materials used now. Although the comparative example 6 has fitness from a point of a

hydrogen content, about heat resistance and a thermal stability target, as compared with Example 12, it is a low value, and, as for the constituent of Example 12, it turns out heat resistance and that it excels in thermal stability.

[0054]

[Effect of the Invention] Since the heat-resistant epoxy ingredient and hardening agent which are improved are used for the charge of neutron cover material of this invention, its heat resistance is good and it can be equal also to the storage over the long period of time of spent reactor fuel. Neutron shield capability is also secured.

[Translation done.]